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Executive Registry

63-8198/a

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1995

7 November 1963

ED 11 IE E 8 Vol 1

Lieutenant General Joseph F. Carroll, USAF
 Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
 The Pentagon
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Joe:

The Director has noted your memorandum of 26 October 1963 which relates to DIA's Study of Soviet hard ICBM sites. He has also noted your suggestion that DIA brief appropriate officers of CIA and other components of the Community.

There are a number of us here in the Agency -- Members of the Board of National Estimates, senior staff men from the O/NM, the O/CI, the O/KR, the O/SI, and perhaps NPIC -- who are interested to hear about the DIA Study. A convenient time for us would be in the afternoon on Friday, 15 November. The matter of the place I would leave to your choice. If it would be handier for you to brief in the Pentagon, we would be happy to meet you there.

I am reasonably sure that there will be others from the intelligence components of State, the services, and perhaps NSA -- notably those who worked on 11-8-63 -- who would also be concerned. Would you think it a good idea to invite some of them to attend the same briefing?

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Sherman Kent
 Assistant Director
 National Estimates

ONE:SK:fd

Orig and 1 - addressee

Exec Sec., USIB - 1

ODCI, Mr. Elder - 1 ✓

AD/OCI, AD/ORR, AD/SI, NPIC - 1 ea Policy of incoming,
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DIA review(s) completed.

JCS review(s) completed.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

THE C.I.A. HAS NO OBJECTION
TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF
THIS DOCUMENT.

S-79239/P1

26 October 1963

SUBJECT: (S) Soviet Hardened Strategic Missile Sites

TO: Director, Central Intelligence Agency

1. Reference the USIB discussion on this subject on 16 and 23 October 1963 in conjunction with USIB consideration of NIE 11-8-63.

2. The importance of the degree of hardness of Soviet strategic missile sites and the resultant effect on United States military force posture has been a subject of major concern within the Department of Defense for several years. Tentative assessments of the degree of hardness, which might be expected of such sites, were made even before the sites were confirmed last year.

3. As you are probably aware, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have directed DIA to prepare the TDI (Target Data Inventory) for the SIOP (Single Integrated Operations Plan) and for the use of all the operational commands. In addition, the Secretary of Defense in his approval of the DIA Production Center Plan in December 1962 confirmed this as a DIA responsibility. Among the more important elements of the TDI are VN's (vulnerability numbers) for each target category listed in the TDI. These VN's were formerly developed by the Air Force Intelligence Center and, since 1 January 1963, have been developed by the DIA Production Center.

4. Once the Soviet hardened missile sites were identified, tentative VN's were assigned to these sites and the VN's dispatched to the Unified and Specified Commands. To determine the vulnerability more specifically and in order to incorporate the latest intelligence, a detailed engineering study of Soviet hardened ICBM sites requiring several months of work was developed and, in May of this year, DIA circulated the initial draft to the Services and the Unified and Specified Commands for their comments. In addition, in September the rationale and methodology used by DIA were presented to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Individual members of the Offensive Working Group and the Deployment Group of GMAIC are also aware of the DIA efforts and have discussed the material. VN's had also been developed and published in the TDI for such other hardened Soviet installations as nuclear weapon storage bunkers, and military headquarters and control centers.

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5. Due to the paucity of precise and positive evidence on this subject, varying views have been received by DIA during the development of its study. The Unified and Specified Commands are currently using a VN which, for hard missile sites, equates to pressures [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The DIA study, as developed to date, indicates higher pressures may be necessary to obtain severe damage to these sites.

6. In order to assist in this problem the JCS in September indorsed the DIA proposal to have a panel of experts evaluate the DIA data developed and the methodology and rationale being applied and to make appropriate comments and recommendations. Consideration of nominees to comprise a panel of experts and development of an appropriate agenda, is presently under way in DIA. It is also planned to make a presentation to Dr. Harold Brown early next week.

7. In order that all members of USIB can be fully appraised of the extensive research and studied considerations which DIA has given to this problem, it is suggested that DIA brief appropriate CIA and USIB personnel on the progress made thus far and solicit their views on the subject.

Joseph F. Carroll

JOSEPH F. CARROLL
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director *S/LB/K*

DCI has noted and requests Sherman Kent to respond on behalf of DCI. Kent has been notified.

W. Elder

M/Record - 7 Nov

Since O/DDCI seemed to think that action was between Mr. ☐ and Mr. Bross, I showed this note to Mr. ☐ who will check it out with Kent, to make sure it is handled properly and without duplication.

O/Exec Dir /r cm

7 Nov 63

(DATE)

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